

# THE YOUNG WORKER

An Organ of the Militant Young Workers

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## LONG TRAIL NOW WINDS FOR CHILD LABOR MEASURE

By CHARLES WITTER  
(Special to "The Young Worker")

WASHINGTON.—By a vote of 297 to 69, the house of representatives adopted the Israel Foster amendment to the constitution giving Congress the power to limit, regulate or prohibit the labor of children under the age of 18.

This vote has created great jubilation among the organizations which have been lobbying for the amendment, and it points to a victory of sorts. What is overlooked is the fact that this amendment itself does not limit, prohibit or regulate child labor, but only gives Congress the power to do so. What is also overlooked is that the process of getting the senate to adopt the amendment, of getting the president to sign it and of getting three quarters of the states to ratify it will take years to accomplish. Also, that there are great probabilities that even with more years of work, the amendment will not be ratified by a sufficient number of states to insure its becoming part of the grand and glorious Constitution of the United States.

**Opposition From South**  
Opposition to the passage of the amendment came almost exclusively from southern congressmen, representing states which depend on child labor to a great extent for the working of their industries and agriculture. Among those who made themselves infamous by opposition to this weak amendment were Mr. Poinsett, North Carolina, Mr. Tydings of Maryland, Mr. Tucker of Virginia, Mr. Garrett of Tennessee and Mr. Graham of Pennsylvania, all of them from states which are notorious for their heartless exploitation of little tots in mines, tobacco and cotton fields and the like. The fiercest opposition to this vicious exploitation by appeals that the rights of the separate states would be infringed by the empowering of the federal government to legislate and enforce decisions against child labor.

**Other Side Not Much Better**  
It should not be thought, however, that the supporters of the constitutional amendment were much better in their "fight" for the measure. All sorts of excuses were given for the advocacy of the proposition, the main one being that the amendment gave the federal government only the power to limit, prohibit and regulate child labor, but that it probably would not be used very strongly.

Implicit in all their arguments was the acknowledgment, for example, that the Supreme Court of Degenerated Fossils had the power and right to rule the two previous federal laws unconstitutional, also that there is not a line in our glorious constitution giving them the right to pass on the constitutionality of anything. And there isn't anyone in either house of congress today, from Senator Lodge, hidebound republican to Congressman Victor Berger, yellow socialist, who has the nerve to challenge the right of the Supreme Court to override a decision of an alleged sovereign body like Congress.

**And In the Meantime**  
While the amendment is now on its road for more votes, signatures, ratifications, the end of which it will never reach, the number of child slaves continues to grow day by day.

## CANADIAN YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE SHOWS 100 PCT. INCREASE; CONVENTION LAYS BASIS FOR COMING ACTIVITY

By LESLIE MORRIS  
Secretary, Young Communist League of Canada

The second national convention of the Young Communist League of Canada took place in Toronto on April 22nd. Delegates were present from almost every branch of the League, but owing to the fact that the branches themselves were unable to finance their own delegates, many credentials were given to the delegates to the Party convention held the three days preceding. In spite of this, however, the affair marked a distinct departure from the convention of last year when the League was formed, insofar as it laid down a working policy calculated to bring the League membership into close touch with the masses of the youth of Canada.

The first convention of the League accomplished the task of laying down the basis of a league. The work during the past year has been primarily of a crystallizing nature, and we may say that we have succeeded in gathering into our ranks the revolutionary youth that exist on this side of the border. The first convention did not take up in detail the tasks of the League, although during the year the national executive committee has carried on campaigns and issued instructions that were in alignment with the recent decisions of the Young Communist International. The report of the secretary showed that the membership has increased from three to

## YOUNG COMMUNIST IN PUBLISHING HOUSE TO BE RUN IN SWEDEN—OR HERE

(Special to "The Young Worker")

STOCKHOLM, Sweden.—The Publishing House of the Young Communist International, which was recently banned from Germany by orders of the dictator, General van Seckt, is now being established in this country, and the work of issuing the various publications previously printed by the house is now well under way.

This new arrangement may, however, be changed in the near future and the entire establishment transferred to the United States. Possibilities of printing a number of pamphlets and books in the United States in the next few months are now being considered by the management of the house, which is the official printing establishment of the Young Communist International.

It is considered that the printing of the English publications in this country will make possible a greater circulation of literature, hence America is the largest consumer of the books and pamphlets issued by the Publishing House.

## JUNIOR KU KLOOS TO FIGHT YOUNG REDS, KLAN IDEA

CHICAGO.—The organization of a Junior Ku Klux Klan for the purpose of fighting against the radical youth movement was announced here by Charles G. Palmer, Grand Pooh-Bah of the Realm of Illinois and Cicero. This is in accordance with an "Imperial Decree" in which the "Imperial Wizard" Hiram Wesley Evans has created the foundation for a national Junior Ku Klux Klan with Paul A. Poock of Atlanta, Ga., as national director.

**To Fight Reds.**  
The Junior cackoos will take in youths between the ages of 12 and 18 and its avowed purpose is, as the Illinois Fliers Cross, official nightown organ states, "to counteract through a national organization the Red propaganda conducted throughout the United States."

The Grand Whangdoodle of Illinois, Palmer, states that the juniors are entitled to "the inspiration and strengthening influence that comes through affiliation with such a loyal and patriotic organization as the Klan." Whether the youngsters who are misled enough to enter this labor-hating gang will receive their inspiration from the actions of the white-slaver and crook, Clarke, former big gun in the Ku Klux Klan, or from the actions of the Ku Klux Klan in various sections of the country where they lynch and beat up anyone that doesn't happen to suit the particular fancy of the local chief cuckoo, is not yet known.

The Junior Reds of the Young Workers League are waiting anxiously for any development of this inspirational and strengthening organization and are tickled to death to think of the counteracting of their propaganda which may be accomplished by the morons who are to direct the Kowardly, Krazy Klonellum of the Junior Ku Klux Klan of America.

six hundred during the course of the year, in addition to the thousand children that have been connected with the League junior section. The National Executive Committee looked upon the second convention as being in reality the first convention of the League, and in accordance with this viewpoint prepared resolutions of policy dealing with every phase of our work.

**Economic Struggle.**  
The League in the future will endeavor to engage in the economic battle of the youth for better conditions. A set of demands that express the needs of the youth have been drawn up and will form the basis for a campaign in the trade unions and in the Canadian Labor Party. The Trade Union Congress of Canada will also be approached by the League during the next year, and a consistent campaign carried on that will draw to the attention of the unions to the deplorable condition of the proletarian youth of this country. The economic condition of Canadian capitalism demands that a fight shall be waged against the intolerable conditions of youth labor here, and the whole weight of the League will have to be thrown in on the side of the exploited young workers. Every member of the League is instructed in the resolution to become a member of the unions wherever possible, and in co-operation with the TUEL and the Party at (Continued on Page 2).

## REVEAL SLAVERY OF CHILDREN IN N. Y. TENEMENTS

By JOSEPH NARBRIK  
(Special to "The Young Worker")

NEW YORK CITY.—The complete report and recommendations of the state industrial commissioner, Bernard L. Shientag, on children's work in New York tenement houses, just made public here, reveals the most horrible conditions prevailing among these children who are forced to slave away in their homes from their very earliest days.

Repeated violations of the child welfare and factory laws were found in many of the cases investigated, largely as a result of the arbitrary cutting down of the force of inspectors who are supposed to look after the enforcement of these laws.

**All Kinds of Work Done**  
Over 2000 families were investigated, most of whom live directly in New York City. Three quarters of the child home workers were found to be slaving away in old law tenements in white congestion, overcrowding and general unsanitary conditions to be very great. Many of them worked in tenements which had no license, although the law provides for one. All kinds of work was—and is being—done by the children, a compilation showing that more than 60 different kinds of articles were manufactured by them.

The report admits that the wages were exceedingly low and the hours meant working into long hours of the night, clear cases of sweated labor being found everywhere.

**2 and 3 Years Olds Too!**  
Although the majority of the tenement house slaves are between 5 and 16 years of age, exceptional cases were found in which babies of 2 and 3 years of age were doing work, stringing beads or some other simple job. More than a third of the children were 10 years old or less and they would come running home from school, into the house, and immediately get busy on their work, slaving away until the late hours of the night, sewing gloves or some silk finery for the enhancement of the beauty of some rich and aristocratic dame.

Most of the work done was on men's clothing, flowers, feathers, beads, embroidery, silk and the like, the children receiving unbelievably low wages for their long hours of toil.

**Is the State Impotent?**  
The report makes the statement that there will always be a certain amount of illegal child labor in the tenement houses so long as the present system of licensing homework continues and that no staff of inspectors, however large, can adequately cope with the problem. This is a most amazing admission of impotence to cope with a situation which is degrading the children of the working class in New York City's tenement house section to the level of coolie slaves practically from the moment of their birth.

The reason for the great employment of children at home is given in another report which shows that the family budget of numerous families is too small to meet a most meager standard of living. Even after the children are drawn into some mining work, the income is so insufficient that the city Board of Child Welfare makes up from between 45 to 50 per cent of the family income in order to keep thousands of families from actual starvation.

In the meantime the newspapers carry accounts of the willingness of J. P. Morgan, of New York City, to advance one hundred million dollars towards the American loan to Germany.

**PAGE THE WAR FOR DEMOCRACY**  
LOS ANGELES.—"Shipwreck" Kelly, a world war veteran, has found a way to help his fellow war veterans. The government appropriation for the veterans having been used up in the "great split" of the navy, Kelly, while the gazers on were thrilled today by the human spider, veterans passed around with hats collecting nickels and dimes for the veterans home at Sawtelle, California. Several hundred dollars were thus collected. According to the Los Angeles Examiner, "the crowd got its worth in thrills."

Mars, bring on the next war for democracy!

**NEXT ISSUE OF THE YOUNG WORKER TO BE SPECIAL EDITION DEALING WITH PROBLEMS OF YOUNG MINERS**

The coming issue of The Young Worker is the Mine Special. A large part of the next issue of our paper is going to be devoted to the many problems of the young miners all over the country and will give our program to meet these problems.

The young workers in the mines are becoming a more important factor in the industry every day. The Young Workers League has many branches in the mine districts all over the country. The young miners are coming in to our ranks wherever we have had a chance to show them our program. We want more and more of the mining youth to be enrolled in the branches and units of the Young Workers League.

## FREE 3 ITALIAN YOUNG COMMUNISTS IN TRIAL; 5 STILL KEPT IN COOP

(Special Foreign Correspondence of "The Young Worker")

ROME.—The trial against the 30 comrades of the Young Communist League and Communist Party of Italy, directly indicted by the high, grand mogul of Castor Oil, Mussolini, has partly ended with the release of 3 comrades, D'Onofrio, Berti and Introna. D'Onofrio has been in another anti-militarist trial since 1920 because of his agitation in the soldiers' barracks of Rome. Berti has been a member of the executive committee of the Young Communist League since its foundation and Introna is a typical young revolutionary representative of the peasant youth of Southern Italy.

These three comrades had been arrested together with 27 others, comprising almost the entire delegation from Italy to the 4th congress of the Communist International. The charges were based mainly on the anti-military propaganda which had been carried on with great success and under the greatest difficulties. The defendants, however, refused to budge an inch from their revolutionary position and instead stated and reaffirmed their communist stand without quibble or evasion.

The trial has made a great impression on the wide masses of the working class and has given the communists another opportunity to state their ideas to the workers.

**Comrade Longo, Cassitta, Telo, Guermendi and Maggioni, all members of the executive committee of the league, are still being held in the Fascist jail, having been confined since last May.**

This is how Fascism tries to suppress the revolutionary workers.

## STARVING KIDDIES IS FREEDOM THIS COUNTRY OFFERS

NEW YORK CITY.—The free country, the land of plenty which the Italian immigrants came here to find, they now know to be the country where their children are continually on the verge of starvation, mostly undernourished and suffering, as a consequence, of all sorts of terrible diseases.

This fact has now been made clear by the investigation conducted for the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor under the direction of the well-known Dr. L. C. Schroeder, among the Italians in the Mulberry district of this city. Over 4,000 boys and girls were studied and the results are simply staggering.

**One-Third Are Undernourished.**  
Of the total examined, it was found that over one-third of them were in an undernourished condition. This same percentage holds true of children two and three years old? As a result of this state of underfeeding among the Italian children up to the age of 10, which is as far as the investigations went, it has been found that numerous diseases exist among the children.

**Children Suffer Many Diseases.**  
A conservative estimate, based mostly on X-ray diagnosis, showed that 50 per cent of the babies in the district developed marked cases of rickets. Other children showed serious nose and throat defects. Protuberant abdomens, palpable spleen and other abnormalities were found in every sixth child, all proving a state of poor nutrition.

This horrible condition exists in the richest city of the world. This is the state of affairs among the children of this country who are supposed to be, if we are to believe our school teachers and Fourth of July orators, the most cherished inheritors of America's greatness.

What bunk!

Did you celebrate May Day with a subscription to The Young Worker?—or are you going to celebrate now? Let's have it!

That is the reason for the Mine Special of The Young Worker, which is going to be printed and circulated among the young miners wherever possible.

The Mine Special is going to contain articles by Barney Mass, southern Illinois district organizer of the league, Tom Myerscough, secretary of the international progressive committee of the U. M. W. of A., Jack Johnson, assistant secretary of the Trade Union Educational League, Charles O'Neill and Pat Toohy of the Pittsburgh mining fields and numerous other articles and stories on the conditions and tasks of the young miners in this country. Besides these special articles there will be many others on

## PROPOSE BREAKUP OF UNIONS WITH YOUNG WORKERS

(By The Federated Press)

NEW YORK CITY.—Calling upon the annual convention, American Newspaper Publishers' Association in session in New York to break the power of the union menace by training more apprentices, the Printing Trades Schools committee reported "that the publisher who has the right to employ apprentices and fails to do so is as much a menace to the newspaper business as the union."

**Committee's Kinda Clever**  
"The promotion and development of printing trades schools will tend to make more journeymen and better journeymen, and to keep down the arbitrary and unjust demands of the trade unions for a wage which in a few years, would become prohibitive," said the committee.

## Education Takes Big Jump Under Soviets

(By The Federated Press)

MOSCOW, Russia.—In 1920 only 319 out of every 1,000 Russians could read and write. Every effort has since been made to eradicate illiteracy by means of schools, clubs, etc. The following table shows the increase in schools and scholars since 1914:

	First grade schools	First grade scholars
January, 1914.....	62,650	4,186,480
January, 1921.....	76,052	6,067,383
	Second grade schools	Second grade scholars
January, 1914.....	10,093	304,567
January, 1921.....	10,093	407,601

Children's homes have increased from 659 to 3,089, and their inmates from 26,691 to 145,560.

## 'Young Worker' Expose Gets Dowell Teacher's Goat; Leaguer Is Fired

(Special to "The Young Worker")

DOWELL, Ill.—Because of the exposure of his third degree tactics in fighting against free expression in the school here, a teacher named Robert Dowell was instrumental in securing the expulsion of Germaine Allard, member of the Young Workers League of America, who had stood up for his rights to distribute The Young Worker and the league's anti-militarist leaflet to the students.

The league branch here is determined to fight against the setting of this precedent and intends to get the backing of the local mine workers' union in the fight. They do not intend to stand by while even the capitalist law gives them—on paper at least—the right to express their economic and political beliefs, a right which was plainly violated by the expulsion of Comrade Allard.

Mass meetings of protest are going to be held and the struggle for free expression is going to be carried on until even the ignorant Mr. Robert Dowell has learned that he cannot trifle with a working class organization and get away with it.

## School Segregation Attempts In Kansas Get It In The Neck

COFFEYVILLE, Kan.—Many towns in this state have opened their school doors to negro children for the first time now that a court decision against segregation of colored children has been handed down here.

In numerous cases the colored kiddies were refused any of the privileges of the whites, such as being denied the use of the swimming pool and similar advantages. According to Elisha Scott, attorney who handled the case for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the state board of education has now eliminated all discrimination, putting all children on an equal basis.

How far this ruling will be carried into actual practice and how much it will be enforced, remains to be seen.

In June the government sent a soccer team of Finland where it met seven Finnish eleven, scoring 30 points to their opponents' 3. In August, another team was forced, consisting of eight players from Petrograd and three from Moscow, with only three additional players for substitutes. Before going to Sweden, Norway and Germany, the team played the Reste of Moscow where it lost by goals to two and in Petrograd it lost 2 to 1. Yet, this team, which was not the best in Russia, did not lose a single game on its tour, winning 15 games and tying in 3. The success of this team can be considered remarkable when it is known that the first nine matches were played in 13 days, and that a railroad journey of 2,000 kilometers was made during those two weeks. In Germany, the Workers' Union played the Russians three times but scored only one goal

## PULLMAN STRIKE BRINGS OUT HUNDREDS OF YOUNG WORKERS AS WELL AS OLD

PULLMAN, Ill.—Not being satisfied with having developed and intensified the speed-up system, beyond the limits of human endurance, the scabbering, anti-union Pullman Co. cut the wages of its workers and forced 700 of them to strike in protest.

Tho the workers were not given even a day's notice on the wage cut only the riveters, buckers and reamers, the men who assemble the luxurious cars that they never ride in, had the courage and understanding to strike. Up to now 700 men are out on strike, and of this number about one-third are young workers.

In spite of the fact that the men are working under the nerve-racking, health destroying piece work system, and that they are compelled to work under the most miserable conditions, the conditions of the young workers are even worse.

### Starvation Wage for Youth.

When the young workers come into the factories, they are put under the direction of more experienced workers and receive the magnificent wage

of from 15c to 24c an hour to start. After working a number of months for this miserable sum, and when they become more experienced they then have their pay raised to the immense sum of 30c per hour. Most of the workers who receive these wages are between 18 and 20 years of age.

### Sweated by Efficiency Expert.

The fact that the young workers are compelled to work these miserable wages are not sufficient for the owners of the Pullman company. When the workers begin to work, they are immediately compelled to work under the degrading piece work and speed-up system. The worker are urged time and again to work faster and faster. Every move they make is watched. An "efficiency expert" stands over the men and time every operation. They are made increase their output. They are told that the faster they work the more money they will win.

The work thus encouraged, foolishly begun, is faster competing with each other the amount of work done by the fastest workers is the standard that all workers must reach. Then when the workers have speeded up production enough when the boss finds they are making "good" wages the pay is cut and the men are compelled to work harder and harder in order to get a living wage. The harder they are compelled to work, the more energy is used up and the weaker, mentally and physically the worker becomes.

**Workers Standing Fast.**  
The workers have been on strike for three weeks as this is being written. They are put up a splendid struggle. Day by day the picket the factory gates induce the strikers to join the picket line in a fight against the wage cuts. Until recently they have not been organized, except for a company union. However, when they began their fight against the Pullman company, John Holmgren, international vice-president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Carmen, came into the fight and the leadership which was so lacking among the strikers. He has been at every strike meeting, giving the strikers the benefit of his experience in the labor movement. He organized them into a local union he represents.

**League and Party in Fight.**  
The splendid co-operation and support given the strikers by the members of the Workers Party and the Young Workers League is giving the strikers the only victory they are getting, and the members of the Young Workers League are doing these papers at the factory. One of our comrades, Samuel G. was beaten up and arrested for distributing the Daily. At a meeting held here, addressed by Salzman, member of the league, E. C. Holmgren publicly praised co-operation of the Workers League and the Daily, and the workers to support the which stood by them.

A strike meeting will be held this Saturday, May 3rd, by Shachtman, editor of The Young Worker. Other league speakers speak at later meetings.

The senate has declared the aim is the inalienable property of the people.

That's one thing we get anyhow.

## California Official Razzes the Country

(By The Federated Press.)

SANTA CRUZ, Cal.—Will C. Wood, California superintendent of schools, paid his respects to the state of the nation at the convention of California school principals here. "As a result of war-time propaganda," says Wood, "America today is the victim of false Americanism and medieval bigotry. He gave as an instance the charges of reactionaries that liberal thought in teaching made the schools hotbeds of radicalism."

### UNITED FRONT TO DRUG YOUTH.

NEW YORK CITY.—The third annual conference of business men and teachers, sponsored by the Eastern Commercial Teachers' Association has just ended here, having been addressed by prominent men in the business world. Its main work consisted in laying plans for the furthering of the minds of the youth of the country in favor of continuing to slave for the boss class.

## "WE CAN PLAY AS WELL AS FIGHT!" PROVED BY SUCCESS OF WORKERS' SPORT MOVEMENT IN SOVIET LAND

(Special Foreign Correspondence of "The Young Worker")

MOSCOW.—Workers' sport in Soviet Russia is on the increase not only in the number of participants but also in the ability of the teams.

In June the government sent a soccer team of Finland where it met seven Finnish eleven, scoring 30 points to their opponents' 3. In August, another team was forced, consisting of eight players from Petrograd and three from Moscow, with only three additional players for substitutes. Before going to Sweden, Norway and Germany, the team played the Reste of Moscow where it lost by goals to two and in Petrograd it lost 2 to 1. Yet, this team, which was not the best in Russia, did not lose a single game on its tour, winning 15 games and tying in 3. The success of this team can be considered remarkable when it is known that the first nine matches were played in 13 days, and that a railroad journey of 2,000 kilometers was made during those two weeks. In Germany, the Workers' Union played the Russians three times but scored only one goal

(to the Russians 28.

Altho Russia is greatly handicapped in the matter of sports by the necessity for other work and by the limitation of such important equipment as good soccer balls and other material, it is making excellent progress. The Red Army has taken to sports with enthusiasm. In Petrograd alone the army has 150 teams.

The Russian workers' sport organizations are affiliated as a national body to the Red Sport International, stands for the participation and activity of working class sport organizations in the revolutionary struggle in contradiction to the social democratic sport international with headquarters at Lucerne. The Lucerne International's membership is confined mostly to Germany, where it has about 1,000,000 members. The Red members in Russia alone, with hundreds of thousands in Czechoslovakia, Sport International has over 3,000,000 the Scandinavian countries, and numerous other European countries.



## CANADIAN YOUTH LEAGUE SHOWS A 100 PCT. GROWTH

(Continued from Page 1).  
tempt will be made to introduce the same slogan that our American comrades have, "the entrance into the unions of young workers on equal terms at lower entrance fees." In common with the American League, we have the same barriers to fight against and the same tasks to accomplish as far as the economic struggle is concerned.

The following message has been received by the Young Workers League of America from the Young Communist League of Canada:

The Second National Convention of the Young Communist League of Canada greets its brother league of the United States. Knowing that our problems are common, we pledge ourselves to support your struggle against American imperialism and its hideous methods. The young workers have a special duty to perform in the fight for emancipation in organizing the proletarian youth for the revolution. We trust that the closest co-operation may prevail during the coming years.

Long live the Young Workers League of America!

Long live the Young Communist International!

LESLIE MORRIS,  
Executive Secretary, Y. C. L. of Canada.

### Shop and School Nuclei.

A remarkable, the necessary part of the proceedings centered around the adoption of this resolution. In the Party convention a few days before, the suggestions of the National Executive Committee had been carried on an ideological campaign in order that the membership could become acquainted with the meaning of the term "nuclei" with the result that seven have already been established. The League has realized the necessity of erecting the movement upon the basis that the nuclei affords, and during the coming year all possible effort will be directed towards this end. Canadian conditions warrant peculiar tactics, however, and only in certain parts of the country that are industrialized can the plan be followed. School nuclei are also possible, and there is no doubt but that several will be established in the near future.

Already there exist two or three possibilities of the League initiating school strikes. The task of the incoming National Executive Committee will be to consistently explore every possibility of the formation of nuclei in shop, mine and school.

### Junior Section.

So far no definite dues paying junior section has been established. It was realized that in order that the children could be definitely connected with the League that this would have to be done. Over a thousand children are already connected with the League, and the work of the children will be begun in earnest from now on. We have reason to believe that over thousands of working class children will be enrolled into the Junior League before many weeks are past. Arrangements have been made for the establishment of management committees consisting of League and Party members fitted for the work of leading the children. All the work and control of the junior section will be invested in the National Executive Committee.

### Many Other Policies Adopted.

The fight against capitalist militarism will be conducted with greater vigor in the future. The jingoistic sentiments that flood this country will be combated to the fullest extent by the League, and every possible form of activity engaged in that will bring us to us many of the working class in our battle against the concealed militaristic propaganda that is spread in so freely by the Canadian press. The work among the foreign-speaking youth is also an important phase. Many of our members are re-igniting their work as well as the work of an English speaking movement. Two propaganda committees have been functioning for some time, the Jewish comrades having already started their organ in spite of the police suppression. The work of the propaganda committee is vested in the National Executive Committee; they will possess the power to translate the policies of the National Executive Committee into action as far as the youth work is concerned. The work of the League among the youth also assumes importance. Farmers of the west are becoming more and more the slaves of the trusts and implement companies, while the plight of the youth is nothing short of damnable. In order to reach the masses of the rural working workers with our militant program the League branches in the rural districts will have to adopt tactics whereby they can interest and hold the young farmers. Excursions are to be made into the farming districts surrounding our branches and special initiative groups are to be set up whose task it will be to start

agitation amongst the youth for the demands that the League is putting forth. The growing peasant farmer movement and the slogan that the Party has adopted a "Farmer-Labor Party" will assist the League to express the desires of the rural youth and to lead in the struggle against exploitation.

### Forward the Youth!

The relations to the Party have been cordial during the past year, but it has remained for this convention to bring home to the adults the growing necessity and prime importance of a militant League. Our Party is now an open Communist Party, and we have reason to believe that during the coming year bitter fights will be waged as the class struggle grows more intense. The Party will have need of the League during those

## School Strike Play Presented by Junior Group of Leaguers

NEW YORK CITY, May 2.—While detectives of the bomb squad were stationed in Webster hall, the junior branches of the Young Workers League of New York gave a very interesting program before a large audience of children and adults.

On of the features of the program was a one-act play demonstrating how to conduct a successful school strike. The curtain rose on a classroom scene, the children in their seats. The teacher calls on the children to rise and sing "The Star Spangled Banner." The children refuse to do as commanded. The teacher asked why, whereupon one of the pupils explains "Our national anthem is the 'International'". The teacher becomes very angry and leaves the room to get a birch.

In the meantime all the young students decide to strike not to sing the patriotic song and to stand together solidly. By the time the teacher returns the strike is beyond control. She is forced to apologize and assures the children it will never happen again. In the end the strikers leave triumphantly, singing "The International."

### DOWN ON THE FARM

CARIBOU, Maine.—Two little girls, aged 12 and 9, picked up 1100 barrels of potatoes in the Caribou fields during the last season. Isabelle and Pearl Kinney are only two of the army of child laborers who work in the potato and berry fields. In one day Isabelle got in 52 barrels of potatoes and Pearl picked up 49.

### MORE AMERICAN PROSPERITY

NEW YORK CITY.—Health conditions are worse, especially among children, in the country districts of America than in the cities, according to the annual report of scientists of the Rockefeller Foundation.

That nationwide bankruptcy among farmers and the rapid increase of tenantry, prevents the rural population from improving sanitation, the report does not state. Ignorance is put forward as the chief cause.

### INVEST IN RAIC

If you are not yet a subscriber to RAIC (Russian-American Industrial Corporation) stock this is to advise you that the book is still open and that many young workers have already joined in this effective work for Russia. The Komsomols in the Russian clothing factories will appreciate this practical form of assistance to the industry they are working to construct on a socialized basis in Moscow and Leningrad and the other clothing centers of soviet Russia. The RAIC and 103 East 14th St., New York City, will welcome your support.

### LIFE, LIBERTY AND HAPPINESS!

NEW YORK CITY.—Loretta Murphy, a telephone operator, may have been endowed with the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, but the right to work and to eat was denied her. So she tried to commit suicide by jumping into the East river. At the hospital it was found that she was suffering from hunger.

### Seek Compensation Law.

BUTTE, Mont., May 2.—Thirty thousand signatures are being sought to petitions to place before the voters in November a new workmen's compensation law. The proposed law has 175 sections, covering every possible contingency that can arise in matters of compensation for industrial accidents.

### Investigating Board Set Up.

MONTREAL.—A board of investigation has been set up by the dominion minister of labor to inquire into the dispute between the longshoremen and the shipping companies. The men ask for 70 cents an hour day and 80 cents an hour night, while the companies offer 50 cents and 60 cents, the rates in force last season. C. Bujold, secretary-treasurer of the Syndicated Longshoremen of the Port of Montreal, has been elected to represent the union. About 400 men are affected.

## More Books Given Away

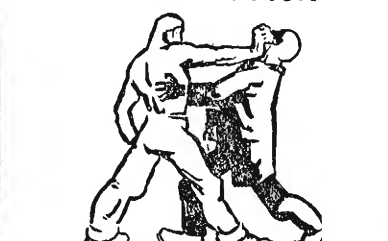
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## We Have Moved

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**1113 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill.**

## EXPOSES BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA AS CAPITALIST MILITARY MACHINE

By HARRY GANNES

Three great modern capitalist institutions that becloud and taint the minds of American workers, and especially the youth, originated in the classical country of capitalism, England. They are the Salvation Army, the Young Men's Christian Association and the Boy Scouts. When transplanted to the United States, all of these movements sank their roots deep into the exploited masses and grew to proportions far larger than their parent bodies in the British Empire.

We are for the moment mainly concerned with that organization in this country that claims 500,000 boys within its ranks, the Boy Scouts of America.

It is not widely advertised that the Boy Scouts were organized by Colonel Baden-Powell in 1908 as a military unit. During the Boer war in Africa, Colonel Baden-Powell discovered that the ill-trained, weak, battered-bodied English proletarians made very poor soldiers. The founder of the Boy Scouts conceived the idea of training the working youth while still very young to become efficient cannon fodder.

### Begin as Military Group.

In 1910 the germ of the future boy army were planted on American soil, and the organization began to grow very rapidly. Colonel Baden-Powell paid a visit to the American branch of his military invention, and on that occasion he said to the leaders of the Boy Scout movement: "Gentlemen, I am here to see you to see how the organization is progressing immediately it is put in the hands of business men who are interested."

So very, very early the boy military machine was put into the right hands, was put into the control of the men who own the country.

Right at its beginning the Boy Scouts received most of their money from capitalists, mainly from Wall Street financiers. This is not denied by the officials of the Boy Scouts, who they try to cover it up. In a letter from one of the chief scout executives to a scout official we read that "in the early history of the movement (Boy Scouts) the limited budget for national work was met largely by contributions given by men of means throughout the country, but principally from New York City."

Since its initiation, the Boy Scouts of America has co-operated with every anti-labor organization in the country. The Rotary clubs, the Kiwanis, Lions, Y. M. C. A. and the Chambers of Commerce are particularly good friends of the Boy Scouts.

The boys within the Boy Scouts are mainly children of the working class. The boys of the toiling masses were tricked into joining the Boy Scouts by all sorts of inducements and promises. Co-operating with the Boy Scouts is nearly every institution of the government, the church and the press.

Get Reactionaries' Support.

Recently, especial stress has been laid on the importance of building and fostering the Boy Scout movement. Every capitalist in the country who was not too busy counting his money at the moment joined in helping to militarize the youth thru the Boy Scouts. Barron Collier of New York had 60,000 street car cards printed in which General Pershing, Elbert H. Gary, of 12-hour day exploitation fame; Charles E. Hughes, bewitched secretary of state and champion American anti-Bolshevik, joined with Sammie Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, in calling upon the American boys to join the Boy Scouts, and asking the workers to give it their aid. Thousands of columns of newspaper publicity were and are given to the organization without charge.

Why are the capitalist press, Wall Street and the American Legion so interested in the development of the Boy Scouts? The war demon stated that the Boy Scouts of America can be used as one of the most efficient military units available. In peace, the Boy Scouts make themselves useful as a scab organization as well as an instrument for anti-working class propaganda.

When first organized the Boy Scouts of America insisted that it was not military. But its military nature is becoming so obvious that it now hides under the phrase that it is not militaristic nor anti-military, but "it is, however, patriotic." To state that it is not militaristic is in every sense of the word a direct lie.

Are They Militarist? Oh, No! Congress permits the Boy Scouts of America to wear the uniforms of the United States Army. Navy or Marines; the Boy Scout drills are based on regulation army and navy manuals. During the war the Boy Scouts mobilized within 24 hours—for war! "Many scout officials, scoutmasters and scouts entered the army, navy or marine corps during the war. . . ."

The New York Military Training Commission recognized the military character of the Boy Scouts when it permitted the boys in that organization to be exempted from military training, "in view of the character of the work covered by the program of the Boy Scouts of America."

Over 100 regular army and navy men are scoutmasters, and there are 361 government employees helping to organize Scouts. Training room for the Boy Scouts is provided in over 51 armories in the United States, while 43 Chambers of Commerce so to it that the embryo army has proper drilling quarters. Over 50 American Legion posts have Boy Scout units

connected with them. The Boy Scouts have been requested by the War Department to co-operate with the citizen's military training camps in an endeavor to enlist the possible 270,000 recruits.

General Leonard Wood says: "There is no doubt that a boy who makes a good scout will make a good soldier." Lieutenant-Colonel Lister believes that "from the Boy Scouts the future soldier joins the junior reserve officers' training corps in high school, then he becomes a member of the senior R. O. T. C., and so on until he becomes a full-fledged professional butcher."

### Training for Murder

In many parts of the country the boys take rifle practice, and in Chicago they are given live ranges, but they must furnish their own bullets. Some day the bodies of the workers will furnish them free targets—unless the working class realizes the true nature of this menace.

Are the Boy Scouts military? It makes one smile ironically to think of the hokum and bunk that is spread about the makeup of the Boy Scouts. In a few months the War Department will mobilize 400,000 soldiers as a war manoeuvre; in this mimic war the Boy Scouts are counted on to do their share. And when a capitalist war breaks out again, the Boy Scouts will be found in the front ranks.

### What "Be Prepared" Means.

The entire psychology of the Boy Scout is the psychology of a slave, of a soldier whose duty it is to "do and die." The Boy Scout laws are the stoniest bunch of rot ever stuffed into the mind of boys. They can be boiled down to one word: OBEY. A Boy Scout must obey his master, whoever he be; a Boy Scout must love those who exploit him, and he must fear God. The slogan of the Boy Scouts is: Be Prepared. That slogan has an interesting history. In strikes it means, "Be prepared to break the strike"; in war it means, "Be prepared to fight for the capitalists"; in revolution it means, "Be prepared to stamp out the workers' revolt in a sea of blood."

Every section of the ruling class pays strict attention to the Boy Scouts. The factory, mine, mill and the government show them with money. The Laura Spellman Rockefeller Memorial Foundation last year presented this young army with \$100,000, and some mysterious source provided a single donation of \$500,000. The army officers give the Boy Scouts the benefit of their training and war experience, and Sammie Gompers trails along like the monkey in the show.

But the working masses heed not. The average worker is too busy sweating his life away in toil for a livelihood to pay any attention to the youth. Many of the American wage slaves are glad to get rid of their kids in order to get a moment's peace and rest. But let us hope and work toward the end that the American workers be not awakened by the prodding, blank-draping bayonets of their one-time Boy Scout sons.

## Youth Movement Of World Opposed By Girl Scouts

The opposition of the Girl Scout movement to the Communist "youth movement" of the world was recognized in the Convention of the Scout Council now meeting at the Drake Hotel. Mrs. Jane Deeter Rippin, national director, praised the Girl Scouts for their efforts to assist in a new international understanding and in promoting peace.

### Girls Led by Capitalist Wives

The girls and boys of this country are doped by the big bosses who lead these organizations, or whose wives lead them. Mrs. Herbert Hoover, whose husband has just had some unpleasant and fishy-smelling charges made against him, was re-elected president of the Girl Scouts. One of the vice-presidents is Mrs. Julius Rosenwald, wife of the merchant prince who heads Sears Roebuck and Company. These women who are officials of the Scouts tell their impressionable young membership what a great good government we have and how every girl has her chance, just like every boy, to rise in this "fine, pretty world."

## Letters From Prison

By ROSA LUXEMBURG

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## LEAGUE SUPPORTS WORKERS PARTY IN GROWTH AS POWERFUL LEADER OF AMERICAN WORKERS' STRUGGLE

By JOHN WILLIAMSON.

Today, after five years of experience, the Communist Workers Party stands out as the influential factor in the American labor movement. Despised and cursed by the labor faker and political charlatan in union, but honored and respected by the rank and file of America's working class: this is a position that any communist movement might cherish and feel honored to be placed in.

### Party Alert To Workers' Needs.

Built from the expelled members of the old reformist Socialist Party and the militants from other workingclass organizations, the Workers Party has thru its many struggles finally welded itself into a potent force in the labor movement which is felt in every nook and corner, wherever America's worker live. "This is because the Workers Party is a communist party and is ever alert to the conditions and sufferings that the workingclass endure. It is ever awake to the organizational needs of the workers against the organized capitalist class and lends its support to rally the toilers against these encroachments of the bosses. The campaigns among the trade unionists, who were disgusted with the old bureaucrats and labor fakirs and who were willing to drop their union affiliation in disgust, and the urging of an organized militant stand against the bureaucracy and urging Amalgamation as the necessary step has met with success. Aside from the victories that might be pointed to in the various trades, chiefly among them being the mining industry, the coordinated efforts on the part of both, the old time Comperites and the various so-called "progressives" against the militant workers organized in the TUEL and inspired by the campaigns of the Workers Party, to expel from the union with a mock trial or by mere force is proof enough of its effectiveness. The foreign born campaign against the vicious laws being proposed in Congress under the veil of protecting the "American standard of living" of the workmen but in reality aimed at the radical foreign worker in an effort to stop the unionization of these workers and put the open shop or 'American Plan' into effect more easily, has proved successful in the short time since it was started. Councils have been organized comprising thousands of workers with whom we never before had contact and to whom we can carry our Communist message simultaneously with our immediate activities.

### Daily Worker Launched

The successful campaign to launch the first English communist daily in the world was a gigantic success and tested the party's true strength. To-day we have as our standard bearer the Daily Worker which carries on the struggle of America's workers whether they be on strikes and lockouts on the industrial field or the many campaigns on political field. To keep flying high the Daily Worker colors is a task which every communist, whether they be in the adult or youth organization must always keep in mind and continually support every day of the year.

The labor party campaign which has been carried on in various phases during the past year or so is now entering the decisive stage when every member must rally around the Party's standard. This campaign has met with huge success. The old worn out non-partisan policy of Comperes, which in reality meant endorsing "friendly" candidates in both the old parties or at it is well known "the policy of rearing your friends and defeating your enemies," has been scrapped by many thousands of workers. The Workers Communist Party has been successful in showing to the great masses of workers that only by organizing a political party of their own, i.e. class farmer-labor party representing the exploited workers and working farmers of America could they hope to rally themselves effectively against the further encroachments of the capital-

ists class. These and other minor campaigns of the Party have been initiated and carried thru effectively. Never for a moment has the Party forgot its fundamental aim, that of organizing the workers and farmers to overthrow capitalism and institute a workers government thru the dictatorship of the proletariat.

### "Line Up Behind June 17th"

The campaigns of the Workers Communist Party serve as a rallying force behind the great mass of workers who must gain the confidence of the leadership of the communist party in these everyday struggles so that in a time of crisis they know that these communist leaders are the vanguard of the communist party represent and fight in their interests and they must organize themselves in whatever form conditions may desire to fight for their independence. The immediate task of the hour is to make the June 17th convention a gigantic success and this requires the immediate mobilization of the entire communist forces in America. We must throw our entire influence and power behind this move to launch a class farmer labor party that will carry forward the banner of independent working class political action.

### Role of Young Workers League

The Young Workers League as a section of the American communist movement must always follow closely the tactics of the party and render useful service in these many campaigns. While it is true that the league has its own campaigns and struggles we must never for a moment forget that a distinct line of division must never be drawn between the struggles of the youth and adult workers. They are all members of the one class, the working class. Our organization is necessary because of the psychology of the young workers and because we are able to reach the much better than an adult organization.

Since we are politically subordinate to the Workers Party it is necessary that we take an active part in forwarding these campaigns to success. While we may be in the communist youth today we must ever strive and expect to take greater part in the struggle tomorrow by entering the ranks of the Workers Party and there thru our experience and struggle in the Y. W. L. prove ourselves self-drilled, active disciplined soldiers of the revolution. The Young Workers League is a wonderful training camp for the party. If we carry thru successfully our youth campaigns begun by the N. E. C. we can then begin to think of ourselves as capable of entering the larger tasks of party work. It is therefore necessary that every Y. W. L. member be acquainted with the activities of the Workers Party. Only by studying and taking a part in these struggles can this be achieved.

### Members Solid Behind S. E. C.

Regarding the more details it is necessary that we cooperate with the Party by exchanging delegates to the various Central Committees and their subordinate bodies. It is just as necessary for every city unit to follow this rule closely as it is that the N. E. C. of the League and the C. E. C. of the party adhere to strictly. The Workers Party of America is the leader of the Young Workers League. The Fosters, Cannons and Bittelmanns are the political leaders of the Party and watch closely the development of the communist movement. These comrades are interested in seeing the Young Workers League grow into a fighting militant mass organization of young workers just as they are interested in seeing the Workers Party develop and grow into a mighty communist party, the leader of the American working masses. Let us give the full hearted support of the entire Young Workers League membership to the Central Executive Committee of the party in its campaigns. The activities of the communist movement, youth and adult, are many and we need a well drilled organization to carry them thru successfully!

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## YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE DEMANDS BROUGHT TO FORE BY APPROACH OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN UNITED STATES

Conditions in this country are getting visibly worse day by day. Unemployment becomes more than a spectre in many parts of the country. In Illinois, one month showed an increase in the number of unemployed of nearly two per cent; the entire eastern manufacturing district complains of slackening of work. Steel orders indicate depression in this important basic industry.

In short, economic developments point to a severe setback for the entire American working class in the matter of wages, hours and standard of living; and this brings into unusual prominence the economic struggle of young workers in the United States.

Firstly, with the parents out of work, the children are forced to leave school and hunt for a job, which instead of aiding the unemployment situation, makes it worse. It is like throwing kerosene on a burning fire. Secondly, where the bosses need workers, they force the old men out and take in young people at less wages. Times of unemployment are propitious for cutting wages.

The resolution on the economic struggle adopted at our last convention declared:

"In spite of the much boasted boom on the industrial field, the fundamental feature of the working class youth in capitalistic America (as in all capitalist countries) is that they are drawn into the process of production as fully fledged workers and objects of exploitation under the system of wage slavery, and are thus deliberately excluded from education."

With the "much boasted boom," not much boasted about, this process of proletarianizing the American young workers goes on apace, and the matter of pressing our economic demands becomes a foremost problem with us.

Just what are our demands and how they are to be put into effect?

Our demands for the youth are first of all based on the needs of the working class youth. They are based on an understanding of the exploitation of the American young workers in the factories, mills, mines and offices. Under no circumstances do we demand things in harmony with the "good" of capitalism, as is many times the case of trade union officials who believe the capitalists have the right to a margin of profit. All profits, we declare, are extracted by exploitation of the working class and, in considering our demands, we do not take into account the exigencies of capitalism.

We recognize that the majority of young workers are forced out of school at a very early age and are plunged into production as mere machines. Therefore, we demand the education of the young workers upon the proper basis, at time paid for by the boss.

When the young fellow goes to work, he is not mature, his body has not grown to its full stature and his vital processes are undergoing critical developments. He cannot bear the long hours so common in American industries. Hence, we demand a shorter working day for youth. We demand yearly vacation with pay and demand the complete abolition of child labor.

And that brings us to an interesting phase of our every day demands. Thru them we can get the young workers to put up a struggle in the shop and in their industries. In that way we teach them their power as a class. The unions are appealed to for help, and the young in turn, are urged to join unions to carry on the struggle more effectively. On the whole, the fight for these demands, which the young worker undoubtedly want, is a political as well as an economic education.

We find much difficulty in propagating our demands for the simple reason that we are not yet organized in the best manner possible to present them. To the working youth who work in great numbers in the large industries. But this is a handicap we can overcome and are overcoming thru our shop nuclei activities. There is no doubt that the best place to initiate our economic struggle in the

open shop. Therefore, we concentrate on the shop nuclei. On the one hand we are able to build our shop nuclei thru activity on the economic field and on the other hand we can carry on our economic campaign thru the shop nuclei.

Now that the workers are beaten back by economic depression, becoming ever worse, we must rally the young workers to a definite stand against the decrease in the living standard. The economic struggle, though always with us, looms up the most important as the present moment. We must grasp this opportunity to reach the masses of young workers where they are most bitterly hit.

## BOOK PREMIUM OFFER OF DEFENSE COUNCIL STANDS

Everybody has heard the joke about the man, who, when presented with a book for his library, said: "Thanks but I don't need it. I have a book."

Feeling sure that this man's point of view is not that of many who received copies of Iury Libedinsky's "A Week" as a premium for selling Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons, the Labor Defense Council is giving sympathizers an opportunity to increase their libraries. In case you have already read "A Week," or for some reason don't want it, you can get a different book for your next premium.

To everyone selling a full sheet of Ruthenberg Appeal Coupons, the Labor Defense Council now offers a choice of four books: "The Industrial Revival of Soviet Russia"—Heller; "The Great Steel Strike"—Foster; "Through the Russian Revolution"—Williams, and, of course, Libedinsky's "A Week."

## AMERICA IS THE FOREMOST EXPLOITER OF YOUNG CHILDREN

No other so-called civilized country in the world exploits and sweats and bleeds its children as does the capitalists of the United States of America. Two and one-half million children—a veritable army of babies—work from morning until night under the most miserable conditions and for wages that do not keep them from starvation. Under the blistering sun of the South, little children from 5 to 14 drag about heavy cotton sacks so that the wealthy plantation owners can loll in ease; poisoning their little fingers, little children work away their tender years in the shrimp and oyster industries of the Gulf states; hundreds upon hundreds, thousands upon thousands drag their weary bodies over the clod and dirt of the truck farms of Michigan, New Jersey, California, while thousands upon thousands work illegally in mine and mill and especially in the health-destroying textile mills.

Workers Do Little. Yet nothing is being done by the workers of this country to stamp out this menace to their children and themselves. So far, the task of relieving the aching bodies of the overworked children has been left to the enemies of the working class—the graft-ridden government at Washington, or to the many scavenger philanthropic organizations which thrive on the misery of the workers' children. Labor speaks only thru Gompers and Gompers yelps in harmony with the very exploiters of the children.

What has been the result? In every one of the forty-eight states in this country exist different provisions pertaining to the right of exploitation of the little children. Two half-hearted attempts at halfway national regulation met their doom at the hands of the United States Supreme Court which Gompers refuses to fight. The number of child laborers grow and an increase of thirty-eight per cent is recorded in less than one year. In some parts of the country the number has doubled. The history of the past 20 years shows that the number of children forced to work in the United States has been gradually mounting until it comprises about 19 per cent of all the children in this country between the ages of four and 14.

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of The Young Worker will contain, besides the special young mine workers' features, announced in another part of this number, the following added articles:

A History of the Young Workers League, by Oliver Carlson, American representative on the Executive Committee of the Young Communist International and former secretary of the Organization Committee of the Young Workers League. An interesting account of the young communist movement from the days of the left wing fight in 1919.

The Young Communist League of France, by Catherine Bickley, an interview with the secretary of the French league by a special correspondent of The Young Worker, now in Europe, who will send us material regularly in the future.

The Meaning of the Citizen's Military Training Camps, by Harry Gannes, the second of his series of articles on American capitalist military organizations.

Third Party or Class Farmer-Labor Party? The Communist Position, by C. E. Ruthenberg, executive secretary of the Workers Party, giving the stand of the revolutionaries on one of the most important points now being decided by the American workers.

And many others. Shoot in your orders and your subs NOW! Don't wait and be disappointed!

## Participation In Real Class Struggle Worth A Dozen Of Lectures

By I. WEINTRAUB

I am a member of the cloakmakers' union and also a member of the Young Workers League. I am actively participating in the present strike and have learned more about the class struggle than all the lectures in my branch could teach me. This is the class struggle in action. The call of the Y. W. L. to its member to join the picket line was a good one for on the line an education is soon obtained. When we speak in the branch of the "Class Struggle," it sounds like a mere phrase, but here on Market Street you see the class struggle in action; you see policemen, slugs, gangsters and private detectives protecting the bosses and the scabs, beating up innocent girls who try to better their conditions.

The solidarity among the strikers is wonderful. Jew and gentile, white and colored, march cheerfully around the picket line. A strike is of tremendous importance to other workers. It gives the impractical lessons in the class struggle and even if it is lost it teaches the workers how to be victorious in the future.

Our Y. W. L. members should attend the union meetings and join the workers in their struggles, activity which will help them become good and practical communists.

## Pictures Industrial Science Bringing The Short Working Day

(By The Federated Press)  
NEW YORK, May 2nd.—"Improved methods of machinery and more efficient utilization of the world's sources of power will have reduced the working day to but a few hours." This is the picture of the future drawn by Lt. Commander Fitzhugh Green, U. S. navy, writing in the current Popular Science Weekly.

The health and welfare of the entire working class is threatened unless a stop is put to child labor. Children are used as workers because they work for extremely low wages. This is a menace to the standard of living of the entire American working class. Where low wages are paid to children, adult workers must accept a reduction or join the ranks of the unemployed. Youth and children in this country are arrayed against adult labor. What harm this will bring to the American toilers needs no explanation for the intelligent worker.

Every worker in the United States suffers because of the 2,500,000 children slaving away their lives so that profits may pile up for the wealth owners of this country.

The danger to the working class cannot be denied; it cannot be covered; it grows and demands the attention of every worker. Meanwhile, the children continue to spend their lives in grueling work. The American working class cannot afford to permit half of its numbers to be battered down in childhood and in youth. Child labor must be abolished—immediately; and it is in the power of the American working class to do it. The children must be brought into the struggle and every means to better their lot employed in the battle against child labor.

Working Class Unity Necessary. Only a united working class on the slogan of ABOLISH CHILD LABOR IMMEDIATELY can thwart this menace and danger to the toiling masses of the United States.

The aimless talk about child labor in Congress adds to the menace. The children still slave. To rely on Gompers or the National Child Labor Committee is to hand the little children over to those who are willing to talk with the exploiters of children about the best method of exploiting the children.

Thru its organized economic and political power the American working-class can annihilate the child labor monster. Every trade and industrial union for its own protection as well as for the good of the entire working class and immediate benefaction of the working children must put forth as one of its pressing demands, the ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOR. The formation of a farmer-labor party would be one of the quickest routes to the realization of the demand: ABOLITION OF CHILD LABOR. The exploitation of the 2,500,000 assumes primary political importance for every worker, and a mighty farmer-labor party would insure the protection of the American working children.

Children Must Be Organized.

The children themselves must be drawn into the campaign for their own emancipation. It is a fact that in those states where the majority of the child laborers slave labor is weakly organized. Organization is restricted to the aristocracy of labor. The children themselves are utterly neglected. In getting the children themselves to fight for demands that are to their own benefit a spirit of militancy and class consciousness is instilled into the children and at the same time they are given a lever to an amelioration of their miserable state.

# We Begin Our National Sub Drive!

## Three Thousand Subscribers In Three Months.

The nation-wide subscription drive to The Young Worker begins on May 15th and ends on August 15th. In these three months we expect the branches of the Young Workers League of America to achieve the quota of THREE THOUSAND NEW SUBSCRIBERS!

Branches all over the country have already received notification of the amount of subs each is supposed to raise and have been sent sufficient subscription blanks to rally the new readers to the standard of The Young Worker.

Quotas have been allotted as follows:

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Superior	50	Easton	10
Buffalo	40	Kenosha	10
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Stamford	15	Gary	5
Johnston City	15	Bruce Crossing	5
Belleville	15	Cloquet	5
Gardner	15		

There they are! Every live branch is represented! And we expect that every branch is going to be represented in the 100 Per Cent Over the Top record at the end of the three months' drive. The branches have been allotted their quotas in accord with their activities, membership and local conditions and we want every one of them to raise AT LEAST 100 per cent of the subs that have been assigned to them.

Beginning with the next issue The Young Worker will carry the amount of subscriptions obtained by each branch and the percentage of the total which the branch has already obtained. Individual comrades who get 5 or more subs will receive honorable mention. The same holds true of sympathetic comrades who are not yet members of the league.

Get on the job, comrades! Help to put The Young Worker on a firm and solid foundation! The paper is getting bigger and better with every issue. It is selling more copies as it goes along. But we are still burdened with old debts which must be paid up if The Young Worker is to be maintained and improved as it has been. A standing subscription list is one of the surest ways of maintaining a paper! That is why we want 3,000 new subscribers in 3 months!

With The Young Worker reaching a number of people in your city it will lay the foundation, also, for a growth of your local organization. Our paper is the best propaganda means for reaching the working youth of this country.

WE WANT A CIRCULATION OF 10,000 BEFORE THE NEXT CONVENTION OF THE YOUNG WORKERS LEAGUE OF AMERICA AND WE ARE DEPENDING ON THE COMRADES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO DO THE JOB!

Buckle down to the work, comrades! The subscription price is \$1.00 per year and 50 cents for 6 months. Try, of course, to get full year subs, but if that is not possible, get them for half a year. BUT GET THEM! Get them from your fellow-workers in the shops, the factories, the mines, the fields, the offices. Get them from your friends in the schools, the neighborhood. Get them from your friends in your various clubs, trade unions, and other organizations to which you belong.

THE THING IS TO GET THEM!  
Be a Young-Worker-Co-Getter! And the minute you "getter" send it in to the National Office!  
DON'T WAIT! ALL SET? LET'S GO!  
THREE THOUSAND SUBSCRIBERS IN THREE MONTHS

## THE YOUNG WORKER

1113 W. Washington Blvd. Chicago, Ill.

Soviet Traders Announced.  
MOSCOW, May 2nd.—The council of People's Commissaries has approved the following list of Trade Representatives of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics abroad: Mr. Stomolnikoff—for Germany; Mr. Miskoff—for Poland; Mrs. Kolontal—for Norway; Mr. Gardin—for Sweden; Mr. Heinz—for Denmark; Yuzbasheff for Latvia; Mr. Ignatieff—for Finland; Mr. Yurleff—for Estonia; Mr. Lomovsky—for Czechoslovakia; Mr. Levitsky—for Austria; Mr. Gortchakoff—for Italy; Mr. Shumitsky—for Persia and Mr. Vasilieff—for Mongolia.

## RUSSIA AND GERMANY A TALE OF TWO REPUBLICS

Eight reel wonder film shows stirring scenes from the life of Russia's late premier—Lenin.

See Birth and Death of Labor Governments in Saxony and Thuringia.

Coming  
ORCHESTRA HALL, MAY 14th, 1924  
At 7:00 and 9:00 P. M.

One Night Only.  
Tickets for sale at Room 307, 166 W. Washington St.  
Main floor and balcony 75c. Gallery 50c. Boxes \$6.00.

## FRENCH MILITARISTS AND GERMAN CAPITALISTS FORGET THEIR FIGHT IN UNITED FRONT AGAINST WORKERS

By ANISE

ESSEN, Germany, April 14 (By Mail).—The three-cornered fight still drags its weary way along in the Ruhr between the French, the Big Business Interests of Germany and the German workers. It is a confused fight, but so far the German workers are having very much the worst of it. Under the pressure of patriotic feeling, they combined with their bosses to fight the French, and now the beaten bosses have combined with the French against them. Reparations, as far as may be, are to come out of the hide of the miners and steel workers of the Ruhr.

In the past six years, they have sunk down and down. Not only are wages far below pre-war, while prices are fifty percent

above pre-war prices. Not only are there a million unemployed in this small concentrated region, only a couple of hours travel north and south and east and west. But, step by step, they have lost all the gains achieved with their blood in the revolution.

It is easy to forget that there was a revolution, of sorts—in Germany. I forgot it all the time, for nowhere in the world is exploitation of workers more raw than in Germany now. Nowhere are they expected to live on such starvation wages. From ten to twelve cents an hour is the wage for a skilled worker of the highest class in the steel mills, and in almost every works there is much part time work, due to disorganization of transport under French attempted management. Krupp, with their old traditions of paternal care for workers, have been parceling out twenty-four hours a week to single men and thirty hours to men with families, giving thus a wage somewhere between two and three and a half dollars a week.

Yet with all this surplus of men, they are lengthening the hours of daily labor. "They have established almost every length of working day except eight," said a member of the factory council in one of the big plants, to me bitterly. "They have seven and a half, and nine and ten,—everything but eight. They are out to break in principle the eight-hour day."

While I was standing in the office of another Factory Council, written notice was brought in from the factory management that henceforth any worker wishing to consult the factory council, must first obtain leave of absence from his foreman. The secretary of the Factory Council turned to me: "Step by step they have taken away all our power," he said. "Our workers' council is nothing but a shell."

Yet he could look back to the thrill of the days when there was a Red Army in the Ruhr, and the miners seized and nationalized the mines, appointing a "Commission of Nine" delegated from local trades councils and mine committees, to take over the whole of the Westphalian Coal Industry and manage it in trust for the state. The Communists led the way, but the local Majority Socialists also took part in it, urged on by the spirit of the workers towards a new Germany. That was in 1919—the pale, disillusioned secretary of the Factory Committee in a big establishment, whose name I shall not mention because it might affect his job, told me with a tired smile that "those were good days." The managers came to work or remained away at the permission of the workers' committees. The output of coal rose steadily.

But the coalition government of Socialists, Catholics and Democrats sitting in Berlin, declared themselves in favor of nationalization by their votes, but announced in the same breath that the act of the Ruhr miners was an act of war. They sent an army to take control, and the miners gave in to the will of their own Socialist representative in the Reichstag, trusting them to bring nationalization of mines in due and orderly fashion.

A year later they were striking again,—not now for nationalization, but to maintain the six-hour day underground. And even while the strike breaking corps and the armies, sent by the Socialist government, was advocating against them, the same Socialist government was thrown out of Berlin by the Kapp Putsch. The loyal miners of the Ruhr rose at their call and joined a general strike to save Ebert, Scheidemann and Noske. And within a fortnight, the Socialist leaders, back in their seats thru the uprising of the workers, sent the same royalist troops who had just been fighting against them, to put down the "red rebels" in the Ruhr. So a democratic Socialist government was saved to Germany, but the most active, able men of the Ruhr who helped save it, were slaughtered by it like sheep.

When the French advanced into the Ruhr and the workers laid down tools, they played into the hands of German Big Business thru their patriotic feelings. They realize this now, very bitterly. "It was not that we thought a German capitalist any better than a French one," many of them said to me, "but we thought we could control our conditions better under our own German labor laws and with the protection of our trade unions." It was a hard situation. They struck

ROCKFORD, Ill., May 2.—The official population of Rockford May 1, 1924, will be 78,298, while Rockford and its immediate suburbs will count 86,737. This information was vouched by Clarence E. Patrick, secretary of the Rockford Chamber of Commerce, following conferences with representatives of the census bureau.

Even with this weapon, they did not make very good terms. The invading armies were too strong for them. They agreed in the end to produce one-fifth of their coal free of charge for the French, to be charged against reparations, and to pay a tax of eight francs a ton on the remainder. It is a tax under which the Ruhr can barely operate; the German industrialists declare, and perhaps truly, that it cannot keep on operating under this tax. Some of the mines are losing money, they say, and others are only getting by because of the nine months of safety and extension work put in during the "passive resistance," and paid for by the German people.

But Big Business in the Ruhr openly exults over one good result of the French pressure. It has abolished the eight-hour day. It gives them the threat of foreign bayonets behind their dealings with their workers. It gives them a vast reservoir of unemployed, hungry men to break any strike. The catastrophic fall of the mark, which was directly caused by the Ruhr War, its drain on the treasury of the German Government, has broken the trade union treasuries and the sick benefit funds and the old age pensions of the workers. They have nothing left; they are down to potatoes and margarine; and watching them are a million unemployed who haven't even those tatoes.

That's the situation in the Ruhr day. I talked with representatives Big Business who were cheerfully declaring that "at least the Ruhr" did one thing, it smashed the sense about the eight-hour day workers' committees." I talked representatives of the French, who lately declared: "All that we ask is that they shall pay the coal tax that they owe us on reparations; it is nothing to us whether they collect the costs from the German Government, or pay it themselves, or get it out of the German workers. That is a matter of German internal policies."

I went into German miners' homes where they were sleeping in the corner on straw under a ragged quilt. And these were not Russian peasants, but Germans, famed for generations of thrifty housekeeping and well arranged homes. I went thru one of the big dormitories—maintained by Krupp, with its roof garden, library, club rooms—all solid in enduring stone. And an irrespressible youth stuck his shoulders over the partition of his cell-like bedroom, crying: "Long live the unemployed. . . ." He was staying in bed thru the afternoon to keep down his hunger, for he had nothing to eat.

I went into office after office of sick pensions, unemployment pensions, insurance of all kinds, and heard the sickening story repeated of how they were ruined by law,—the law that required them to place their savings in municipal bonds and government loans, and that bankrupted, the decent honest people who obeyed it, while the men who invested in dollars and raw materials, got rich.

I heard the secretary of the Employers' Association in the biggest steel center saying: "The workers have become sensible; they see they must work ten hours. . . ." And I heard workers' representatives say: "Not at any time has there been such hate as now against the bosses. We know that we have been betrayed. They told us to strike to save our eight-hour day and our German working conditions. Now they have made terms with the French to kill all the gains of the revolution. If they refuse to sign the next contract with the French,—we will not do another passive resistance job for them. We will run the mines for the French, or for anyone who pays us wages. Until. . ."

But that "until" is a precarious hope. It means until they seize the mines again with a Red army for a Soviet Germany. This might have been done easily once, if they could have held the mines when they first took them, but they surrendered them again to a German government too feeble to know its own mind. A government which gave them back to their private owners and then bank-

WASHINGTON, May 2.—American Federation of Labor officials are now convinced that George L. Berry of the Printing Pressmen's union and the American league, will be nominated by the Democrats for vice president, regardless of the identity of the head of the ticket or the trend of the platform.



**THE YOUNG WORKER**  
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## Three Rousing Whispers For Congress!

And give them with a will!  
For the great child labor amendment has been passed by the house of representatives by a vote of 297 to 69! That for which Mr. Gompers and the National Child Labor Committee and the National Consumers' League and the editor of the Buckwheat Squawk have been agitating these many years has finally come to pass—if we are to believe what they have to say.  
But let's see. The author of the amendment, Mr. Israel Foster, of Ohio, has this to say in its favor:  
"1. This constitutional amendment is NOT a child labor law.  
"2. It is NOT a reflection on the United States Supreme Court.  
"3. It does not propose to forbid child labor under 18. It merely intends to give congress discretionary power regarding the labor of children up to 18 but not beyond.  
"4. It is NOT expected that congress under this grant of power will pass legislation affecting children up to 18, although it MIGHT be considered wise to forbid boys under 18 to operate railroad locomotives or mine elevators, for instance.  
"5. The 20 or more national organizations favoring this amendment does NOT want congress to include employment of children on the home farm and would OPPOSE such national legislation."

There you have examples of the piffle which is handed out in defense of the child labor amendment by its own father. Evidently he doesn't think much of his son, regarding him more or less as illegitimate.  
As is pointed out by our Washington correspondent, the amendment must now travel the tortuous road before it is ever become a part of our constitution. And when it finally gets to that stage we have no doubt but that whisksers or moss will have grown all over it—or over the children it is supposed to protect. And when the great day comes, we will find that, in Mr. Foster's words, "it does not propose to forbid child labor beyond 18" and that "it is not expected that congress under this grant of power will pass legislation affecting children up to 18."

This is the kind of legislative rot which even the misnamed progressive members of congress try to palm off on the workers of this country. It is past high time that the workers themselves, the workers who are old in years and the children as well, unite in a real fight against the evil which is eating away the lives of the youth of the working class. The Young Workers League program of actual struggle against the menace of child labor is one behind which all workers and working class organizations can line up.  
Our demands for the organization of the youth into unions, for equal wages for equal work and better conditions for the child worker in accordance with physical and mental necessity stand out as the only realistic program yet presented in this country. A belief that congress will ever move one single millimeter towards a permanent, or even a temporary solution to this problem, or be blind to the experiences of the working class in capitalist countries the world over.

Capitalist patriotism consists in being loyal to the flag that provides the greatest profits.

## Peoria to St. Paul

The call for the organization of a real state farmer-labor party in Illinois at a convention in Peoria, May 18th, is at this time in the hands of every workers' and farmers' organization in the state. That Illinois needs a farmer-labor party which will actually unite all the working class and farmer elements which really stand by the recent stand of Fitzpatrick and his gang of the old F. L. P. in favor of the election of discredited capitalist politicians. The alleged F. L. P. which consists of and is led by Gifford Ernest and his immediate worshippers cannot be considered seriously for even a minute.

The sincere working class groups and individuals which are signatories to the Peoria convention call contain such well known names as Duncan MacDonald, John Hindmarsh, J. J. Watts, Morton Johnson, Arne Swaback and others. They are not only fighting for a state party but for a national party—the party which is going to come out of the June 17th convention at St. Paul. In order for the national party to be successful in any degree it is necessary that it have as its backbone strong state parties. These are in the process of being organized not only in Illinois, but also in Ohio, New York, Michigan, Oregon, California and elsewhere.

The need of a united farmer-labor party has been told in The Young Worker in the past and in this issue will be found further information. It is the duty of all progressive workers to get their organizations lined up behind these movements. It is especially the duty of members of The Young Workers League to get their trade unions to send delegates to these various conventions. The successful organization of a national farmer-labor party means the beginning of a widespread struggle against child labor, against capitalism's attempt to drag the youth of this country into another war against the use of injunctions to kill the attempts of the workers to better their conditions.

Our comrades in the mining sections of the country must take special note of this political campaign. As part of the working class of this country, as a part which is more oppressed than any other, it is their duty to get into this campaign with all their strength. The same holds true, of course, of our members in other unions and organizations.

All together, now, for the organization of a huge class farmer-labor party in this country, in the separate states and nationally!

## Bonus, Bonus, Everywhere—

But not a cent in sight.  
Almost six years after the end of the greatest slaughter of the working class of the world in the interests of the capitalist class, the United States senate has voted a bonus to the deluded young men who fought the combined war for democracy and to end all war. And the generous bonus consists in a full paid endowment insurance policy which will be graciously handed down to the soldiers—those who are left to receive it—in 20 years.  
Thousands of young workers who had been shoved into uniforms died in No Man's Land; thousands of others suffered living deaths; thousands still remain in the government hospitals all over the country where they are occasionally amused by free vaudeville performances by the National Vaudeville Association. Those who escaped have learned of the democracy they fought for, when they went out on a strike for better wages and conditions and less hours of toil. These young workers, the majority if not all of them, were fooled and forced into fighting a war in which they had no real interest. And those that yapped loudest about the necessity of fighting the war remained at home, the dollar a year man who coughed the dough out of the blood and sweat of the workers in the trenches of Europe and the trenches at home.

The latter, when they piled up profits to the skies, are the patriots. The former, the soldiers, who now ask for the insignificant return in the form of a bonus, are called bolsheviks and anarchists. You see, there must not be a premium on patriotism for the workers. They must be taught that patriotism is a duty for which they are not to be paid, which they must carry out in a 100 per cent American spirit. Of course, the millions made during the war by the plutes is taken as a matter of course. That's perfectly proper and is as it should be. But ordinary, common workers who did the real fighting and dying, how dare they ask for a bonus! Treason!

But treason or no, they demanded it and the senate has now thrown them the sop of an endowment insurance policy to be realized in 20 years. The great reward has been granted them for their service to Morgan-Rockefeller and Co.

This sop, however, is not going to satisfy the ex-soldiers so easily. They are beginning to see thru the whole affair. It is a small sign of the times to note that the American Legion Book Service now includes John Dos Passos' famous anti-war book, "Three Soldiers," in its collection. When the young workers who make up the armies of capitalism awake to the fact that it is not their business to do the boss' fighting but to join the revolutionary workers' fight against the boss, the war to end all wars will have begun.

And there won't be any need for a bonus, either.

The proper study of the wise man is not how to die, but how to live. There is no subject on which the sage will think less than death.—Spinoza.

## Russia's Children and Ours

A children's model city, where all the best educational and mechanical and agricultural equipment will be provided, will be built (for the 10,000 homeless orphans) in the environs of Moscow, states a report from the American delegate of the Committee for International Workers' Aid.

The report goes on to tell of the tremendous efforts which are being made on behalf of the children. Thousands have been taken from the streets and placed in institutions. The Lenin fund for children organized recently by the All-Russian Congress of Soviets will solve the problems of the homeless waifs.

Krupskaya, Lenin's wife, has opposed any memorial to her husband except the fund to be used for the care of delinquent children. Lenin loved children and always insisted that the children shall be provided for first. Krupskaya carries out his wish.

But the capitalist press is howling about nationalization of children in Soviet Russia, about the neglect of children, about Soviet Russia being overrun with homeless waifs. This is not out of pity for the children, but out of hatred for the first workers' republic. Now that the workers all over the world are clamoring for the recognition of Soviet Russia the kept press is intensifying its campaign for discrediting the Soviet republic.

Nothing is said by the capitalist press about the suffering of children in this country, where there are over two million five hundred thousand child laborers, more than in any country in the world.

Recently a case has come to light of an orphan boy in Canada who was kept in practical slavery working on a farm from early morning to night without receiving any wages at all. He was then sent away penniless and had to walk for miles to the nearest city. This is only one case of cruelty to child laborers on the farms, and there are thousands such cases in Canada, and in this country. In New York City children under ten years of age in over two thousand families are doing sweatshop work in homes which are hovels rather than homes.

But the capitalist press does not proclaim these facts and only dig up reports about suffering of children in Russia and distorts these reports in the campaign of slander. Instead of suggesting that Soviet Russia be recognized, the kept press is intensifying its campaign of hatred.

Half my life has been spent trying to forget the know a lot more had we learned a lot less.—H. L. Roofs.

## A Correction

In our issue of March 15th, 1924 (Vol. III, No. 6), there appeared a news item on page two headed "Norway's Youth for Army Strike." This item is based on incorrect facts and gives the wrong impression as to the actual situation in Norway. The so-called "Left Young Communist League" is led by Haakon Meyer, who worked together with Tranael in the latter's work of splitting the adult party away from the Communist International and is at present doing everything to fight the Communist International and the Young Communist International. Also, the position of this alleged left on the question of anti-militarism is far from a Communist stand. We hope to have in the next issue, a more detailed article from one of our Norwegian comrades on the anti-militarist activity of the Young Communist League, Norwegian section, Young Communist International. We wish to state here, however, that the news item previously mentioned contained statements which do NOT express the position of the Young Workers League, The Young Worker, the Young Communist International or its Norwegian section.

You cannot have a "new world," you cannot make better men, under the capitalist system.

# My Flight From Siberia

By Leon Trotsky

### What Has Gone Before

After Russia's defeat in the Russo-Japanese war, the misery of the workers grew more intense and they presented a petition for greater freedom. The result was the massacre known as Bloody Sunday. The news of the massacre spread and caused a spontaneous uprising in the form of Soviets. When the Soviets met to consider a general strike they were arrested, tried, and 15 of the accused were sentenced to Siberia. Trotsky, one of the 15, describes in the following pages of his diary the trip across the snowy wastes of Siberia to the prison. Now go on with the story:

JANUARY 16.

I am writing under the conditions which I shall describe. We are in a village, twenty versts from Tiument. It is night. We are in a peasant's hovel, a low, dirty room. No part of the floor can be seen. It is completely covered with the bodies of members of the Soviet of Workers' Deputies. . . .

They are not yet sleeping. There is much talk. . . . laughter . . . . As a result of drawing lots I received a broad sofa-like bench for my bed. Strange, what good luck I have in life! . . . .

In Tiument we stayed for a day and a night. We were greeted—we are already used to such greetings—by a tremendous number of soldiers, infantry, and cavalry. The cavalry volunteers—bustled about, making their horse prance, driving the street arabs away. We walked from the station to the prison.

Pokrovskaya, January 18.

I am writing from the third stopping place of our journey. We are very weary from the slow travelling. We do not cover more than six versts an hour and we travel only four or five hours a day.

It is a good thing that the cold is not too severe—20-25-30 degrees Reaumur. About three weeks ago the thermometer registered 52 degrees of frost. How could we, with our little children, have endured such a temperature!

We still have a week's journey before we reach Tobolsk. We have no newspapers at all, no letters, no news of any kind.

I am writing from here without any assurance that the letter will reach its destination. We are still forbidden to communicate, while on the way, and must make use of any accidental—not always reliable—means of communication.

In reality, however, all these things do not seem very important. We are all warmly dressed. We breathe the pure frosty air with great joy, after the bad ventilation we had to endure in the prison. Say what you will, in that far away period when the human organism was formed it had, obviously, no chance to adapt itself to the conditions of solitary confinement.

In Siberia everything remains as it was of old—at least just as it was five or six years ago—and yet, at the same time, everything seems to have changed. Not only have the Siberian soldiers changed—and how greatly altered they are!—but the "Tschelodny" (peasants) have changed as well. They talk of political matters; they ask if this state of things will last forever or whether it will end soon. Our driver, a boy of thirteen—assured us he was fifteen—kept shouting during the whole drive: "Wake up! Wake up! All you working people get ready for the fight, you hungry people!" The soldiers scolded him (although it was plain to be seen that they sympathized with him) and threatened to report him to the officer. The lad knew quite well that they were all on his side and he continued to roar his call for the workers to revolt. . . .

The first stopping place from which I wrote you was, as I said, a peasant's grimy hut. The two places at which we stopped later were government halting places—not less grimy but a little more comfortable. They had separate quarters for men and women, and also kitchens. We had plank beds to sleep on. We can only try to make an appearance of relative cleanliness. That is perhaps the worst feature of our journey.

The peasants bring milk, curds, pork, butchery, and other foodstuffs to these halting places. Although it is really against all orders they are allowed to enter. The "instructions" forbid all unauthorized persons to have any relations whatsoever with the prisoners, but then it would be difficult for our escort to find any other means of provisioning us.

We have invested F. . . . our superior in years, with sovereign authority and the responsibility of keeping order, and we all—the officer, the soldiers, the police, the market women—call him "doctor." He displayed an extraordinary amount of energy; he packed things up, bought what we wanted, was our cook, our general caretaker, issued orders, gave singing lessons, etc., etc. Each day some of us were appointed to help him—but it was always possible to tell which members of the party were on duty because they never had anything to do. . . . At the present moment supplies are being prepared and things are quite lively. "The doctor wants a knife." "The doctor would like to have some butter." "The man on duty wants to take out the garbage."

The voice of the doctor—"You don't eat fish? I can fry a chop for you. It is all the same to me." . . . .

After supper tea is served on the plank beds. At teatime the ladies come on duty. It is one of the rules issued by the doctor.

February 8.  
day 90. We arrived at our headquarters tired out and turned in early. We are now in an East Yakutian village, in a dirty little cabin. In the smoky gloomy kitchen the soldiers who have been escorting us are stamping up and down among the tipsy Yakuts. Poor soldiers, they were frozen almost to death. In the

Two Anecdotes By I. AMTER (Moscow).

It is the year of the famine—1921—which cost the lives of millions of men, women and children in Soviet Russia. The Soviet Government is making the most tremendous efforts that a government ever made to stay the hand of death. But millions are doomed and millions will die.

It is a rainy night, late in spring. It is dark and the rain is falling in torrents. The Kremlin is deserted but for one man. Unheeding the storm and the sound of the big clock in the tower which strikes two, he walks up and down. His collar is up, his cap down over his ears. His hands in his pockets. Up and down, up and down—in thought.

It is Lenin.  
Another comrade enters the Kremlin, approaches the strange figure out there in the night and speaks to him.

"What are you doing out here in the rain, Vladimir Ilyich? Don't you know it is two o'clock?"

"I can't sleep," Lenin replied. "The workers and peasants are starving." And he marches up and down, in deep thought, trying to find a way to save the Russian workers and peasants from starving.

On the Red Square, where the thousand Red soldiers lie buried in a common grave—lying in death as they had fought in life—together as they battled against the common enemy. Where John Reed lies; where Vorovsky, the old Bolshevik and plenipotentiary of the Soviet Government, who was murdered by a fascist hand, lies buried.

On the Red Square, where the Red Army marches, showing the prowess of young and mighty Soviet Russia. Where the old cathedral of many turrets stands and where the chimes ring out the Internationale.

On the Red Square where often he spoke to the revolutionary workers of Moscow, explaining to them the nature of State policies, and exhorting them to safeguard the Proletarian Revolution and to prepare for the World Revolution.

There he lies in the midst of these other soldiers of the Revolution, who also fought their fight and died. In a tiny mausoleum they placed his body. On either side is a sentinel's box where a soldier stands on guard. And between the two boxes, in a cold, black letters stands the name LENIN.

There he lies, the beloved leader of the World Proletarian Revolution. One million workers and peasants of Soviet Russia saw him for the last time in the Hall of Columns of the Temple of Unions. They stood in the blasting cold only to see him once more.

And now again, the lines form in front of the little mausoleum; the lines of the workers and peasants who pass in and take another look at the great comrade.

Was ever man loved more than he?

self to the conditions of solitary confinement.

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The peasants bring milk, curds, pork, butchery, and other foodstuffs to these halting places. Although it is really against all orders they are allowed to enter. The "instructions" forbid all unauthorized persons to have any relations whatsoever with the prisoners, but then it would be difficult for our escort to find any other means of provisioning us.

We have invested F. . . . our superior in years, with sovereign authority and the responsibility of keeping order, and we all—the officer, the soldiers, the police, the market women—call him "doctor." He displayed an extraordinary amount of energy; he packed things up, bought what we wanted, was our cook, our general caretaker, issued orders, gave singing lessons, etc., etc. Each day some of us were appointed to help him—but it was always possible to tell which members of the party were on duty because they never had anything to do. . . . At the present moment supplies are being prepared and things are quite lively. "The doctor wants a knife." "The doctor would like to have some butter." "The man on duty wants to take out the garbage."

The voice of the doctor—"You don't eat fish? I can fry a chop for you. It is all the same to me." . . . .

After supper tea is served on the plank beds. At teatime the ladies come on duty. It is one of the rules issued by the doctor.

February 8.  
day 90. We arrived at our headquarters tired out and turned in early. We are now in an East Yakutian village, in a dirty little cabin. In the smoky gloomy kitchen the soldiers who have been escorting us are stamping up and down among the tipsy Yakuts. Poor soldiers, they were frozen almost to death. In the

next room a lamb is bleating . . . . A marriage is being celebrated in the village. It is the time of year for marriages among the Yakuts. Most of the Yakuts seem to be drunk. From time to time they come here, peer at us, exchange a few words with each other . . . .

A little old man from Saratov came to visit us. He was also drunk. He was formerly in a government post but had been exiled. He and a few of his comrades had come here from Beresov to lay in a supply of meat. They are "politicals".

An incredible amount of preparations have to be made for our further transportation. As I told you in a former letter our train consists of twenty-two sleighs, for which about fifty horses have to be conscripted. Very few villages have so many horses, so they have to be brought in from other villages, often over great distances. At some of the stations we learned that horses had been brought from villages one hundred versts away. And yet the distances between the stations here are rather short—usually from ten to fifteen versts. Thus the Yakuts have had to bring horses from one hundred versts away to drive two members of the Soviet of Workers' Deputies a distance of ten versts! Since the time of our journey thru this section had not been definitely named many of the men who brought horses have had to wait for two weeks or more. They could remember only one other, similar case. That was when the governor "himself" went thru the district. . . .

I have already spoken of the sympathy of the local peasants for the "politicals" in general and for us in particular. We had an example of this in Belogorya, a small village in the Beresov district. (You see we are already this far on our way.) A group of peasants had arranged among themselves to prepare food and tea for us—and they had taken up a collection for us, six rubles. Of course, we refused to take their money, but we were quite willing to drink tea with them. No, our escort would not permit this. As a matter of fact, the non-commissioned officer at the head of our escort had given his permission, but the corporal objected—whole village heard him—and threatened to make a case against the officer. The whole village followed us when we left the hut where we were to have been entertained. It was a regular demonstration.

(To Be Continued)

## League News

Four Nuclei in New York.  
New York now has four nuclei, one in the waist maker's industry, one in the mobile industries; there are prospects of many more soon. The agitation for shop nuclei has increased very much, writes comrade Jack Stach, D. O., since the visit of comrade Max Salzman to New York. Comrade Morris Pasternak, recently of Pittsburgh, is now industrial organizer and things are going to boom.

New York just held a city convention, at which was reported that there are about 750 in New York in good standing. There were reports on children's work, education, shop nuclei, the local bulletin and other very important matters. New York still maintains its position on the top and the formation of new nuclei, the possibilities of which are almost unlimited. We will soon give the league in New York a nice round membership of 1000—and then some.

And In Maynard, Too!  
John Louko, D. O. Massachusetts, is working on the organization of a nucleus in Maynard. There is no reason at all, why, especially in a highly industrialized state like that, there should not be some real live fighting nucleus. The establishment and good functioning of one nucleus should be an inspiration and a proof of its worth to all the other comrades. Get busy! Every member a nucleus organizer, is our slogan!

We Almost Forgot Minneapolis  
This seems to be nucleus week! A Minneapolis comrade has got together with another comrade in the big machine shop where they work and have formed a shop unit! Literature is being distributed and we are going to see to it that definite work is carried on there. Nucleus week is right! Come on, comrades, let every week be "nucleus week!"

A new society founded on industrial peace and forthright, bearing with it its own ethics, aiming at a new and higher life for all men, has received the general name of Socialism, and it is my firm belief that it is destined to supersede the old order of things founded on industrial war, and to be the next step in the progress of humanity.—William Morris.

shutting out delegates from local unions and poor farmers organizations. Also, the very date of the convention of the C. P. A., after both the Republican and Democrats conventions, shows that if a so-called "good man" is nominated by either of them, the C. P. A. intends to betray the class upheaval and ask its followers to support one of the two capitalist parties.

On the other hand, we have a great convention called for June 17th at St. Paul, Minnesota. Not only is the St. Paul convention called by organizations composed of actual workers and working farmers, but its inclusive plan of representation allows any local union of workers to send a delegate. Also, recognizing that the poorer farmers are generally most discontented while at the same time lacking organization, the St. Paul convention will admit a delegate from any group of 25 farmers who authorize a representative. Thus a positive

rank and file meeting is assured. It must be understood that this rank and file cry is not a catch-word. In the fight of the unions against the bosses, the union bureaucrats are the first outpost of the enemy. Before the workers can engage the bosses with their own ranks solidly united, they must rout the traitorous capitalist agents who call themselves union officials and install revolutionary leadership. Fighting the union bureaucrats, ousting them from leadership in the farmer-labor movement and in the unions too, is fighting the class struggle.

These are the reasons the big capitalist newspapers and the powerful organs of the union bureaucracy are attacking the St. Paul convention. And these are the reasons as well why every Communist, young and old, should throw every effort behind the attempt to establish at St. Paul a class party of workers and poor farmers.

## IMPROPAGANDA

WE ASK FOR A VERSE—AND LOOK WHAT WE GET!

To Walt Carmon, Impropropagandist. (With apologies to Ralph Chaplin.)

I cannot lose the thot of you,  
You haunt me like a little pest,  
Reminding me the whole day thru  
Of your importunate request!

How can I woo the fleeting Muse  
With trouble knocking at the door?  
Yet, I can not your plea refuse  
For just one verse, just one verse more!

And now you'll vanish from the scene  
For two short weeks, two little weeks;  
And I shall go my way, serene,  
Until once more—the colymne speaks!

I. D.

Sam Gompers is against the Constitution. He wants beer back again.—  
Sam Gompers wants to ruin our constitution.

THE BOY IS AWFULLY THANKFUL!

Congress has passed the soldier bonus bill—nearly six years after the war's end. Las year two thousand war veterans committed suicide. If there are any left who have not died of hunger, accident or old age they can now die happy. A grateful government has taken care of them—with an insurance policy. And some one will surely get it. If this isn't generosity then I'm a cock-eyed, lopsided, homely, flat-nosed son of a groundhog.

A THANKFUL—GAWD HOW THANKFUL—BUCK PRIVATE.

Lucky Cal and Santa Claus Hughes are calling another Disarmament Conference.

You can't tell us that our politicians have no sense of humor.

SEND PHOTOS AND MONEY FOR FREIGHT CHARGES. WE'RE PUTTING ON EXTRA HELP TO TAKE CARE OF THE ANSWERS.

In the spring a good looking young man's fancy turns to the ideal radical girl. Mine: Buys her own cigarettes. Eats little when out and a lot at home. Does not smoke or cuss like an amateur. Pays her own car fare. Prefers the gallery at the show. Knows the radical movement is not a new dance. Reads "The Eleventh Virgin"—but also the Party Discussion. Attends all meetings and when you take her home—likes to have you stay a while to—discuss things. Is there one in the movement?

BRICK LAYER.

"Humor is that quality in composition which is characterized by the predominance of the ludicrous or the absurdly incongruous in the choice or treatment of a theme. Humor may be further distinguished by its sympathetic quality, by force of which it is often found blending the pathetic with the ludicrous and by the same stroke moving to tears or to laughter."—The Century Dictionary.

(Note to Editor)—Be sure to put this in. I don't know whathellhe's talkinabout but it does sound good, doesn't it?

—BUT—

If it's Impropropaganda—Send it in!

It takes an income of six figures to get a man in the rotogravure section, but one figure will get a girl there.—Peoria Star.

Which gave us an idea that shaped itself out like this: If you subscribe —you're friend will also—just ask him!

In the spring we are very lenient to poets. Verse that almost always is reserved for the editor's private collection—at this time of the year appears in print. The editor has a lot to say about the following contribution sent in by Office Beane—Oh, a whole lot!—but we will let it speak for itself:

No matter how you strive and struggle  
And every effort bend—  
Environment is like a sorset  
It's bound to shape your end.  
—OFFICE BEANE.

Cue for the exist of  
—Walt Carmon, Impropropagandist.

By Earl R. Browder  
Editor, The Labor Herald

# "Why and What Is June 17th?"

Among the youthful workers as among the adults, confronted by the question of the formation of a farmer-labor party, misgivings and misunderstandings arise concerning not only which part of the many non-Communist elements now tending toward a separation from the old capitalist political parties are permissible allies in the United States as against the colossal power of the great bourgeoisie, but also a question of the basic advisability of a Communist organization uniting with any non-Communist element whatsoever.

Communists Have No Illusions

Dealing with the last question first, we must recognize that the "Communist of the Workers Party do not share the illusion of the broad masses

of disoriented workers and bankrupt farmers that a farmer-labor party and the reforms possibly to be gained thru it will be or could be the final goal of these masses once they set their massed forces afoot on the path of political struggle against great capital. A farmer-labor party is not regarded by the Communists as the final goal but as a bare beginning of the political struggle of the classes.

We do not share the illusions of those broad masses not yet advanced in political understanding, but we know that we whose final goal is a Communist society thru which the overthrow of capitalist rule and the transition era of proletarian dictatorship, cannot hope to realize our aims unless we can win these masses to our support, unless we can convince them ultimately that only our program will answer their needs.

We intend to do this by helping them in their battles, while explain-

ing to them at every step the in-adequacy of reformism, of parliamentary struggles—of the program they now believe in so implicitly and trustfully that they cannot be convinced ineffective except by experience. We can safely mingle with other elements and not only retain our revolutionary clarity but dispell the confusion and illusions of the masses, because we of the Workers Party are not like other parties but fight as a unit with trust-worthy and vigilant leadership with objectively calculated programs, a unit with an iron discipline equally exacting upon membership and leadership and for these reasons capable of mixing with any and all elements while retaining its clear identity and ideology.

Communists Support Progress

It must be remembered that Marx in the Communist Manifesto of 1847 stated that the Communists are not opposed to other working class parties, on the contrary as he said, "The

Communist everywhere support every revolutionary movement against the existing social and political order of things."